

# CURLEY BOOSTS BOXERS' PRICES; HIS BIDS SEND FIGURES SKYWARD

First He Forces Bidding for the Willard-Moran Match From \$40,000 to \$67,500, Then Boosts Terms of Kilbane-Chaney Bout From \$10,000 to \$15,000; Britton Says Lewis Has No Championship Rights.

By T. S. ANDREWS.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 19.—It would seem from the way promoters are being forced to bid to the skies for title or near-title matches, that Jack Curley has been employed by some of the managers to boost prices in general. First, Jack forced the bidding for the Willard-Moran ten round contest from \$10,000 to \$67,500 and now comes the Kilbane-Chaney match, which had been arranged for March 17 at Baltimore, with Curley offering a purse of \$15,000. Originally Jimmy Lewis, manager of Johnny Kilbane, had signed a contract with Messrs. Harris and Blotzer (who conduct the club in the Gracie city), binding the champion featherweight to fight George Chaney 15 rounds to a decision and for the title, for a stipulated sum of \$4,000.

The club proceeded to make arrangements for the match and spent a considerable amount of money. Then came the announcement that Dunn would not go through with the match, as he wanted a six round bout in the Gracie city with Chaney first at 122 ringside, and to follow with the 15 round match at Baltimore.

Then he wanted Harris and Blotzer to step out and let Al Herford, former manager of the late Joe Gans, and a promoter, to handle the affair and he did not want Billy Loeap as referee, although he had selected him at the time of signing articles. Herford raised the purse to \$4,000 and now comes Curley with an offer of \$15,000.

Plenty of References. Dunn knew all the conditions when he signed and there is no excuse at this late date for not fulfilling his obligations. It would be an easy matter to settle the referee questions, as Mr. Loeap is not the kind of man who would insist on officiating if not wanted. There are many men in the Gracie city of New York, Ed Smith of Chicago, Harry Stout of Milwaukee, Jack McGuigan of Philadelphia, Jack Gans of San Francisco and others, who would, or should be, acceptable to both boxers. By such actions the boxers are killing their own game. The jumping of the purse to unheard of sums means every time that the public must foot the bill. Champions are entitled to some consideration in the making of such matches, but there is a limit to even champions and their demands.

Jack Britton, the former Chicago lightweight, but who has developed into a welterweight under the management of Dan Moran of New York, is very much pleased to think that Ted Lewis should claim the welterweight championship. He thinks that the title in this country belongs to an American and not to a foreigner, and for that reason Lewis has absolutely no right to the championship. The fact is, "Kid" Graves was really the boy with the best claim to the welterweight title. If any of these challengers want to get a clean claim to it, they should arrange a marathon battle with Graves and settle the question. Britton has proved himself to be a high class welterweight and there is no doubt that a match between Jack and Graves would be most interesting. Willie Ritchie also figures in the welterweight class and a battle between Ritchie and Lewis would be well worth witnessing. It is likely that Lewis will become a resident of this country for all time, as he has already taken out his citizenship papers, according to his manager, Jimmy Johnston. In that event he will be entitled to battle for the championship of America.

Pollok Raps Leonard. Recently Ed Pollok, manager of Benny Leonard, the New York lightweight, issued a challenge on behalf of his protégé, to Freddy Welsh, the champion. Harry Pollok, manager of Welsh took a wallop back at Leonard by asking who he is that he should request a match of the champion. He claimed that Leonard only came to distinction through the fact that he put a K. O. wallop on Joe Mandot and he also stated that Tommy Ward, manager of Mandot, should have been slapped on the wrist for letting Joe fight at that time, as he was unfit to do so.

It was said after the Mandot and Leonard fight that Welsh in the first place was opposed to Joe coming into it and that he did so only to keep him with the promoters. However, since then Leonard has proved himself to be a very classy boxer and the fact that he knocked out Phil Bloom shows that he carries something more than a little cleverness.

Wants \$10,000 Side Money. Manager Pollok wants a side bet of \$10,000 and by Leonard's manager—this is to go for a 20 round battle. Of course there are some managers with lots of money who could afford to put up a side bet of that size, but it is a question whether Leonard would be able to find it at this time. Billy Gibson could do it very easily, but it is another question whether he will want to risk that much on a youngster like Leonard.

Mitchell Has the Cash. Talking of side bets, manager Pollok says that he has the cash.

Correct that eye trouble, and enjoy the comfort and pleasure of perfect eyesight. For satisfaction in eyeglasses, fitting see Geo. D. Randall, Optician, and Optician, 203 Mesa Ave.—Adv.

## OLDEST TRAP SHOOTER NEVER MISSES A MEET

Wausau, Wis., Feb. 19.—"Uncle Joe" Bineman, the oldest trap shooter in the world, recently passed his 91st year. Twice a week he goes to the traps here and twice a week "Uncle Joe" is to be found at the traps. He hasn't missed a shoot for years. His scores are creditable too.

"Uncle Joe" got some of his shooting ability putting at "Johnny Reb" in the Civil war. He uses glasses for reading, but not at the traps. He watches the flying objects and not the gun.

Next in age to "Uncle Joe" among the trap shooters of the country is J. H. Williams, 80 years of age, of the Louisville, Ky., Gun club.

## CANADIANS ARE RECRUITING A COMPANY OF ATHLETES

Montreal, Canada, Feb. 19.—A company composed entirely of noted amateur and professional athletes is being recruited here. One of the members is Robert Kerr of Halifax, who won the 200-meter in the London Olympiad of 1908. He is doing his utmost to enlist his acquaintances among the Dominion's sportsmen.

The movement was started by George Kennedy, managing director of the Canadian Athletic club, and was the result of unfavorable comment on the alleged poor showing of athletes in the military reserve ranks. The organization will be known as the Sportsmen's company.

## 18TH INFANTRY FIGHTER ACCEPTS LARRIMER'S DEFI

Longoria, Ariz., Feb. 19.—Thomas King, of the 18th Infantry band, has accepted the challenge which Bill Larrimer, through L. J. Kelly, recently issued through the El Paso Herald, to any light-heavyweight along the border.

King, who is the champion middleweight of this division of the army, has cleaned up everybody in his class at Camp Douglas and did his same at Texas City, according to his manager, Sgt. Darcy. This bout would have to take place at Columbus, N. M., since the Arizona law prohibits fistie encounters.

## PLAN MOTORCYCLE RACE, TOMBSTONE TO GLEESON

Tombstone, Ariz., Feb. 19.—Arrangements are being made for a motorcycle race from Tombstone to Gleeson as an added attraction for the All-Sports day program being planned by Gleeson people for the celebration of Washington's birthday.

Four entries for the race are Charles McCarthy, Jack Vosty and Frank Barnett of the Douglas Motorcycle club, and Billy Ryan, from Bisbee. First prize for the race will be \$50.

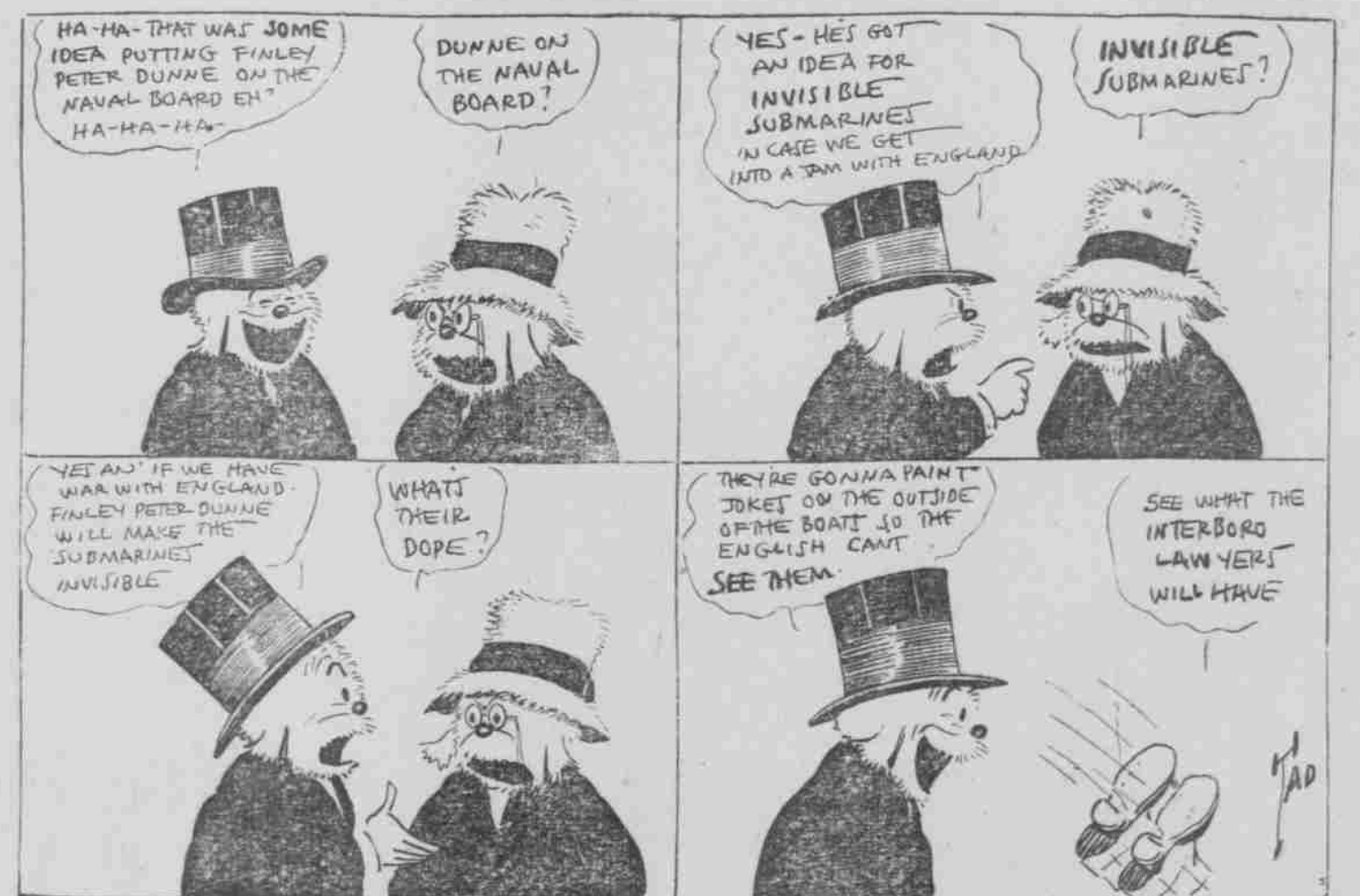
## CHIEF BENDER MAY PITCH ON VERNON, CALIF. TEAM

Vernon, Calif., Feb. 19.—Chief Bender, former pitcher of the Philadelphia Athletics, will be a member of the Vernon Pacific Coast league team this season, if he accepts the offer made to him by president Eddie Maier of the local club.

Bender was with the Baltimore Federal league team last season, but was unconditionally released, and is now a free agent to sign with whatever club he chooses.

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## MAKING A SUBMARINE INVISIBLE BY TAD



## DILLON IS READY TO TRY WILLARD; SIZE IS NO BAR, SAYS SCRAPPER

Light Heavyweight Champion, Despite His 170 Pounds, Says He Has No Fear of the Heavyweight 'Goliath' Now That He Has Administered Knockout to 205 Pound Tom Cowler; Dillon Has Real Punch.

BY RINGSIDE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Consider Ernest Cutler Price, E. C. P., by any other name, would fight just the same. As a matter of fact, Ernest Cutler Price fights just like Jack Dillon, the Indianapolis catamount, for E. C. P. and J. D. are one. Ernest Cutler Price came by his nom de guerre in appreciation of a great cat. And Jack Dillon fights like a thoroughbred, too.

Jack Dillon—we shall adhere to this name henceforth—is one fighting young man. What he lacks in pounds, he makes up for by his fighting qualities. At 170 pounds, this miniature heavyweight can make the best of the real heavy boys step some in order to finish out a battle with him.

Dillon is a courageous little fighter, as well as a resourceful one. Only the other day he signed himself away to a match with champion Jess Willard, who when trained down to fighting weight, scales a svelte 250 pounds. And Jess expressed the opinion that Dillon would be a mere toy in his hands.

But what does "David" Dillon say about that proposed match with "Goliath" Willard? Merely this: "My possible match with Willard is not such a joke as it may appear on the surface. Do I think I have any chance with him? Well, if I didn't think I had some chance of beating him I never would have sought the match."

True, Willard stands about six feet six, and wouldn't it make a pretty picture to see that immense length stretched out on the canvas? I think I can do it, too.

Refers to Cowler Knockout. "Tom Cowler is a brood of a lad—about six by four and something, 205 pounds stripped—and game as they come. I tapped him on the chin with an overhand right in the second round and—well, he fell as straight as a rod. He never even quivered while the referee counted him out."

"Up to the time I met Cowler I never even breathed a word with Willard."

(Continued on Next Page.)

## TEAMS KEEN FOR 1916 PENNANTS; SHARP RIVALRY FOR FLAGS EVIDENT

Boston Claims Fine Chance in Both Leagues, But Many Other Teams Determined to Contest Every Foot of the Way; New York Has Three Good Teams, All Well Managed; Phillies Have Strong Team.

BY MONTY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Boston boasts that it has a chance for the pennants of both big leagues this year, with the champion Red Sox trying to repeat in the American and the Braves trying to come back in the National. Chicago offers the same sort of bravado on behalf of Joe Tinker's combined Cubs and White Sox in the older league and Clarence Rowland's expensive all-star White Sox in the younger. With this situation, somebody is bound to be disappointed.

Three other cities have representation in both leagues—St. Louis, Philadelphia and New York. The first two of these stand practically no chance of double honors.

St. Louis may make trouble in the American league with an entry composed of the best men from the former Stouffs and Browns, led capably by Fielder Jones, but the Cardinals, a sixth place out fit last year, have not strengthened appreciably and are not likely to cut much of a figure.

Philadelphia has a champion team in the Phillies. A champion always must be considered in the hunt, no matter how rivals have strengthened. Athletics are so woefully weak in almost every department that the Quaker City has not even considered the possibility of real achievement by the season.

New York Ranks Third. New York ranks barely beneath Chicago and Boston in its show for a two-fold title. The Yankees may develop into the dark horse of the American league. In the national there are two entries from the metropolis if Greater New York is considered, which would include Brooklyn. With two legs on which to hang the master's hat, Gotham deserves more respect than it had only one.

All three of the Greater City clubs have added considerable strength since the close of last season. Taking them together, they seem likely to furnish a stronger bid for at least one flag out

(Continued on Next Page.)

## CITY LEAGUERS SHOWING LIFE

Objection to Amateurs at Washington Park is First Obstacle.

By "BECK."

Steps for the formation of the Commercial Baseball league for the 1916 season are now being taken but the management hit a snag right at the start. When permission to play at Washington park was sought, park commissioners, W. Fisher did not greet the delegation with open arms. Mayor Tom Lea, however, assured the baseball men that the amateur game had his hearty support and that he would do all in his power to help the league. There is hardly a city in the country that has a better amateur baseball league and it will be a poor advertisement for El Paso if there are serious obstacles placed in the way of the Commercial league, the local amateur circuit. Cleveland has a park for amateur baseball which will care for 100,000 fans. Omaha, Buffalo, St. Louis, Denver and other places find accommodation for the amateurs.

The Rio Grande league furnishes the fans with a high grade of professional baseball but there is plenty of room for the amateurs as well. In fact, many of the best players of the professional are one of the strong boosters for the amateurs.

One of the league consisted of the Feldmans, Puritza, Shelton-Paynes and Keeney and it is likely that all these concerns will be again represented for the 1916 season. The prospect of still two more teams entering the league.

Commercial league has developed such stars as Cliff Hill, who is playing a high grade of ball in the Texas league and is always announced as the "El Paso pitcher." There were several players in the league last year who will graduate to the professional ranks this spring. The prospect of the professional, is likely to try out half a dozen young fellows who showed class in the amateur circuit last season.

Myers and Casey Stengel; infield, Jack Danahoe, George Outshaw, Ollie O'Mara and Gus Getz; catcher, Chief Meyer.

Yankees—Outfield, Lee Magee, Frank Gilhooley and Hughie High; infield, Walter Pipp, Joe Felle, Roger Peckinpaugh and Fred Masiel; catcher, Walter Alexander.

All pretty fair appearing team. In Boston, Chicago and New York possess real prospects all due regard to the Windy City and the Hub.

Knaf Is Giant's Best Acquisition. The chief acquisition of the Giants is Benny Knaf, the Ty Cobb of the late feds. Bill Rariden behind the bat is another former Federal who will help.

Lee Magee, greatest all-around player in the outlaws, will prove a tremendous boon to the Yankees. Joe Gedeon, young second baseman from Salt Lake City, who jumped to the Reds too late to play last fall, also is likely to cut a wide swath. The Yankees besides have taken on a young army of ambitious minor league stars. In fact the best looking bunch of youngsters landed by any of the big clubs.

The Dodgers will profit more from the presence of Chief Meyer than from any of the other recent acquisitions, according to the way the thing figures out on paper. A steady, dependable catcher like the Indian is all that is needed to make Larry Cheney and Babe Marquard return to their former effectiveness as stars of the first caliber.

Clubs Well Managed. All three metropolitan clubs are well managed. John McGraw needs no comment to indicate his ability. Wilbert Robinson found the Brooklyn in sixth place when he took hold of them in 1914. That season he brought them up to fifth place and last year they rose to a good third under his leadership. Nuf said for Uncle Wilbert. Bill Donovan became chief of the Yanks last year and pulled them into fifth place, higher than they had been since 1910.

Teams Line Up Strong. Each of the three New York clubs seems to be stronger than the average in pitchers. In the other positions they probably will line up as follows: Giants—Outfield—Benny Knaf, Geo. Burns and Dave Robertson; infield, Fred Merkle, Larry Doyle, Art Fletcher and Hans Lobert; catcher, Bill Rariden. Dodgers—Outfield, Zach Wheat, El

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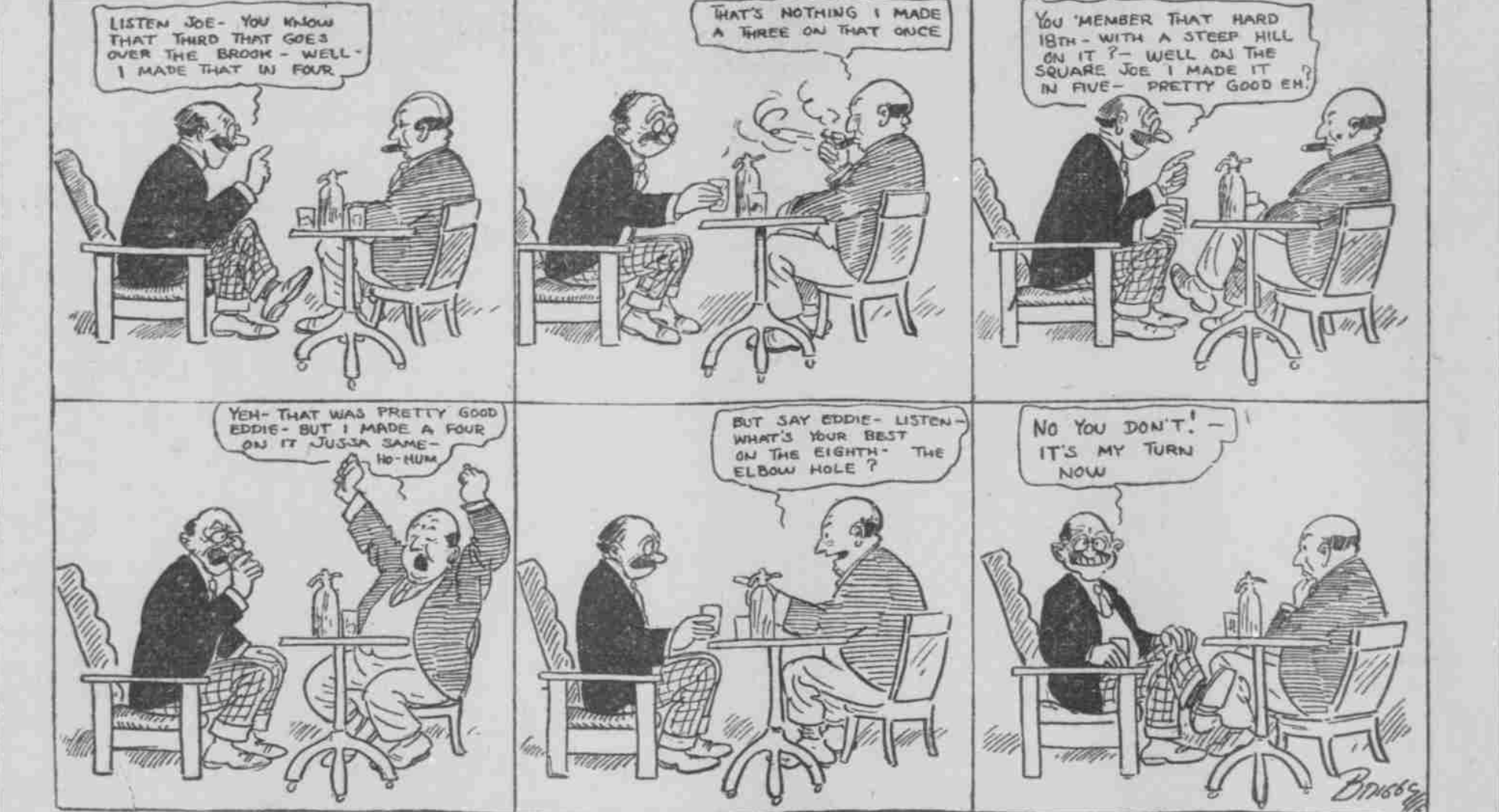
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